General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 20 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/56/L.55 and Add.1)*]

56/107. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Taking note also of the note by the Secretary-General on enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund,[2] submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session pursuant to its resolution 54/95 of 8 December 1999,

Recognizing the importance of the Revolving Fund as a cash-flow mechanism for a timely, prompt, effective and coordinated response by the organizations of the United Nations system,

Recognizing also that the pattern of utilization has been uneven in recent years and that there is a need to ensure that the Revolving Fund is used where the needs are greatest and most urgent,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the fourth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2001;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions

[1] A/56/95-E/2001/85.
[2] A/55/649.

of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

6. *Expresses its deepest appreciation* to those Governments that have contributed to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund;

7. *Encourages* better use of the Revolving Fund, and in that context endorses the proposal of the Secretary-General to expand the utilization of the Fund to include humanitarian assistance for natural disasters, humanitarian assistance for new requirements in protracted emergencies and emergency staff safety arrangements for United Nations and associated personnel;

8. *Decides* that the expanded utilization of the Revolving Fund shall follow the same procedures and terms of reference that have been established in resolution 46/182 for advances and reimbursement of the resources of the Fund;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform Governments regularly about the use of the Revolving Fund and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the utilization of the Fund and on further possible improvements in its terms of reference in order to enhance its functioning and utilization, inter alia, in relation to the great need for urgent assistance in many underfunded, so-called forgotten emergencies;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the 2002 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to relevant agreed conclusions of the Council and progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

87th plenary meeting
14 December 2001